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J. Douglas
10/21/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**Inventors:** Medina, Eitan et al.**Group Art Unit:** 2663**Serial No.:** 09/348865**Examiner:** Ronald B. Abelson**Confirmation No.:** 5861**Filed:** July 7, 1999**RECEIVED****Title:** A Linking Cross Bar Controller

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Technology Center 2600

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated September 5, 2002, (Paper No. 9), please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend page 2, paragraph 2 as follows:

In US patent application 08/790,155, filed January 28, 1997 now U.S. Patent No. 5923660 which issued on July 13, 1999, and incorporated herein by reference, in order to optimize through-put time, communication between SECs attempts to utilize the bus as little as possible so that the bus will be available as soon as a SEC wants to utilize it. Therefore, each SEC includes a write-only bus communication unit which transfers the packets out of the SEC by only writing to the bus. Thus, packets enter each SEC by having been written therein from other SECs and not by reading them in, since read operations utilize the bus for significant amounts of time compared to write operations. Having the bus available generally whenever a SEC needs it helps to provide the full-wire throughput.